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# Brandywine school board appoints new member

**By DEBRA HAIGHT**
Leader Publications Contributor

NILES — The Brandywine Board of Education has a new member as well as a new vice-president after action at a special meeting Monday night.

The purpose of the meeting was to interview applicants to replace Board Vice-President Thomas Payne who resigned from the board in late September.

Board members interviewed two applicants for the position: Jeremy Colby and Toni Lawrence. Both applicants had submitted letters of interest as well as answers to a series of questions. Colby also applied in July for the vacancy left when Angela Seastrom resigned and is also running for one of three four-year seats on the board this November.

Colby is a local business owner and has also worked as a substitute teacher. He noted that he received special education services when he was in school because of a learning disability. He had said in July that he is interested in getting resources to kids with special needs.

He answered two questions from board members. Board Trustee John Jarpe asked him about the role of the school board in accountability for student achievement. Colby said he sees the board as part of the district leadership that should be responsible for student achievement as a whole.

"The numbers and goals are very complex when it comes to student achievement and can be affected by socio-economic factors and family issues," he said. "But overall it has to come down to the leadership of the board and district leaders."

Board President Elaine McKee asked Colby about his views on the board's recent discussion of Title IX changes and how student privacy

**See MEMBER,** Page A8

# READY TO GROW

## Buchanan to expand social district

**By DEBRA HAIGHT**
Leader Publications Contributor

BUCHANAN — Buchanan City Commissioners tackled a number of subjects at their meeting Monday. They approved a new labor contract with city workers and a new special assessment for the Southwestern Michigan Community Ambulance as well as expanded the city's downtown social district.

The city commission first approved a social district for the downtown area more than three years ago in May, 2021. A state law passed in 2020 at the height of the pandemic allowed for the creation of social districts as part of an effort to support restaurants by allowing people to consume alcohol off premises in shared common areas.

Community Development Director Rich Murphy said the expanded district approved by the commission Monday with Commissioner Patrick Swem abstaining now includes the former Moose Lodge at Red Bud Trail and Front Street and more properties on Days Avenue and Main Street. Swem abstained because he has a business interest in the Livery project which is now in the social district.

**See GROW,** Page A8

**SUBMITTED** | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

# Buchanan begins process to hire new city manager

**By DEBRA HAIGHT**
Leader Publications Contributor

BUCHANAN – The schedule has been set for the selection of a new Buchanan city manager with current City Manager Tim Lynch leaving at the end of December.

Buchanan City Commissioners heard Monday from consultant Frank Walsh about the process to choose a new person to lead the city.

Walsh, a former St. Joseph city manager, also conducted the last search in early 2023 which resulted in the commission hiring Benjamin Eldridge who resigned after less than six months on the job. He left amid controversy over complaints filed against him by employees and how then Mayor Sean Denison suspended him without a commission vote.

Lynch served as the interim manager before Eldridge's hiring and came back last December after Eldridge resigned. He informed the commission last month that he plans to leave by the end of 2024. The city has had three city managers in the last four years, including Eldridge and Lynch.

Walsh's agreement with the city in 2023 stated that he would conduct another search free of charge if the person picked last year stayed less than six months. Mayor Mark Weedon said after Monday's meeting that the city is only paying for advertising, supplies and travel.

Walsh said the job was posted last Friday and applications will be due Friday, Nov. 8. He will meet with the commission on Nov. 12 in a closed session to review the candidates and pick who they want to interview. The candidates chosen will then be informed of the commission's decision and names would be released to the public.

He is suggesting a first round of interviews be conducted Nov. 19-21 with the commission deciding then to either hold a second round of interviews or to make an offer to an applicant.

He said a contract and salary would be negotiated once an offer is made. He said the best case scenario would be to have a new city manager starting Jan. 6 but that starting date could be later in January if there is any delay in making a choice.

Walsh said the job has been posted with the Michigan Municipal League and will also be posted on other recruiting sites as well as the city website. He noted that they've already have received applications from two or three strong candidates already. He said he also plans to reach out personally to people he knows around the state to see if they are interested.

He urged commissioners to also recommend names and said that good local candidates often make strong candidates. He added that applicants don't have to been a city manager now to be a great city manager in the future.

Lynch's pending departure was met with wishes from commissioners that he would stay longer. "It will be hard to replace Tim, I'm about ready to cry," City Commissioner Dan Vigansky said.

New City Commissioner Raquell George said she has appreciated Lynch's guidance since being appointed to the commission last month. "I'm kind of excited but I also kind of dread looking for a new city manager," she said.

6 54708 09550 1

# Local boxing program helps Parkinson's patients fight disease

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

DOWAGIAC — Every Tuesday and Thursday, the exercise room at Front Street Crossing springs to life, with sounds of boxing gloves hitting pads echoing through the halls. The instructor holding the pads, Walter Swann, can be heard issuing commands "One-two, one-two," letting his trainee know when to strike.

Swann, a former professional boxer and U.S. Navy veteran, has spent more than 25 years sharing his boxing knowledge with the people of Dowagiac through various programs in the community. Recently, Swann began Parkinson's Power Punchers, a program he leads Tuesdays and Thursdays at Front Street

**See FIGHT,** Page A7

**MAXWELL HARDEN** | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

**Dowagiac's Walter Swann began Parkinson's Power Punchers, a program that takes participants through boxing exercises that help to address Parkinson's disease.**

## OBITUARIES

Joyce Leer
Carol Cuthbert
George Richter
Lawanda May Patsy Jean
Patsy Jean Meachum
Marsha Lusk Francis
Harold Albert Reid Sr. **A6**

## FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

"Lions 47 - Cowboys 9" **A2**

Edwardsburg turnovers costly in home loss to Niles **B1**

# FRANKLY

## TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

What is Frankly? It is where readers sound off on issues of the day. Have a tip, quip or blip? Call Frankly at (269) 687-7702 or email rich.cains@leaderpub.com

**"Lions 47 - Cowboys 9"**

**"Watch as God blesses us with the beauty of color this Autumn. Not everyone in the world gets to experience this magical time."**

**"I will say this, as much of a pain it can be, I'm glad to see our roads getting fixed."**

**"I hate to see Shelton's go. I hope they don't totally disappear. "**

**"Halloween candy shouldn't just be for the kiddies. Young teenagers asking for candy should also get a treat. Kids grow up too fast. Let's allow them to have a little fun, too. Be generous and be thankful we have them."**

**"As a born again Christian I found light through Christ. Others may receive God's light in other forms. It's not for me to judge or fully understand God's intent for them. But, in my heart, I know what is right for me. Love each other."**

**"Please vote! It's up to everyone to educate himself/herself on the candidates. Don't believe everything you see or hear. Make a point of learning before you cast your important vote."**

**"Thank you to the state police for monitoring Hwy 12 lately. I'm seeing more officers driving up and down than ever before. This is an extremely dangerous road with all of the crossroads and trucks. Speeders are putting everyone's life in danger with every MPH over the limit."**

**"Pray for an end to these wars. Nobody wins. There is plenty of pain on both sides."**

**WEATHER**

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| 68° 42° | 71° 47° | 74° 49° | 70° 53° | 65° 38° | 54° 33° |

# A DAY TO REMEMBER

## Cass County Historic Courthouse reopens in Cassopolis

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

CASSOPOLIS — The Cass County Historic Courthouse has faithfully watched over the Village of Cassopolis for 125 years. After nearly two decades of vacancy, the day county leaders and community members waited for finally arrived last week Friday.

The Cass County Board of Commissioners hosted a grand reopening ceremony Friday, Oct. 11 for the historic courthouse to celebrate the completion of its renovation and its 125th anniversary. The event featured light refreshments, a ribbon cutting, guest speakers and open house-style tours.

The historic courthouse will now serve county residents through the offices of the administrator, clerk, treasurer, equalization, veterans services, geographic information systems, information technology and of course, commissioner chambers.

"Today we celebrate not only the historic courthouse's 125th anniversary, but also the grand reopening the building after 21 years of being vacant, bringing our administrative operations into a new home and our ability to effectively serve the public into a new era," said Cass County Administrator Matthew Newton. "This has been a project in the making for over two decades and it's truly breathtaking to see the culmination of those efforts finally come to fruition and be able to share that with all of you."

In October 2022, the Cass County Board of Commissioners approved a $9.7 million courthouse renovation project – $8.1 million of it being allocated from the county's American Rescue Plan Act fund and $1.5 million committed from the county's Public Improvement Fund.

The Cass County courthouse was originally constructed in 1899 and modernized in 1974. The courthouse annex, which is where Cass County administration works out of today, was built in 1971. The courthouse was vacated in 2003 after the new Cass County Law and Courts building opened.

After years of planning, the commissioners are happy to see the project complete.

"This is our community's building – the centerpiece of Cass County," said Cass County Commissioner Roseanne Marchetti. "We're so proud of it. It looks like it was meant to look and it will serve our residents for another 125 years."

**MAXWELL HARDEN** | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
**The Cass County Board of Commissioners hosted a grand reopening ceremony Friday, Oct. 11 for the historic courthouse to celebrate the completion of its renovation and its 125th anniversary.**

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# LaSata to serve as MJA President

**COMMUNITY REPORT**

SAINT JOSEPH — Berrien County Circuit Court Judge Charles LaSata was recently selected by his peers to serve as the statewide President of the Michigan Judges Association.

Joining Judge LaSata for the swearing in ceremony on Mackinac Island were all of his Circuit Court colleagues from Berrien County, Judges Pasula, Howard and Smith. Judge LaSata has served on the MJA Executive Committee for more than a decade. The Michigan Judges Association membership is composed of Circuit Judges and Court of Appeals Judges from throughout the state. MJA provides educational and training opportunities, and also serves as a resource for the Michigan Legislature on the adoption of laws and statutes and their impact on the judiciary. Judge LaSata has been a Circuit Judge for twenty years. Prior to taking the bench he served six years in the Michigan State House and four years as the Mayor of the City of Saint Joseph.

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**SUBMITTED** | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

**Mike Moroz and Cathy LaPointe, representing URSCC, accept the Michigan History Society 2024 award for Local Society.**

# Underground Railroad Society wins Michigan Historical Society Award

**COMMUNITY REPORT**

CASSOPOLIS — The Underground Railroad Society of Cass County announced Monday it has received the Michigan Historical Society 2024 Award for Local Society.

URSCC has been a Vandalia-located nonprofit since 2009 with a mission to "Research and educate about Underground Railroad in Cass County, Michigan and restore four buildings as focal points for telling this story." Readers are encouraged to visit their www.urscc.org to learn more about the URSCC's 20-site driving tour, Bonine House Research Library, and three annual events – UGRR Wax Museum, UGRR Days Festival, and Christmas at Bonine House.

URSCC owns and is restoring four Underground Railroad related sites – Bonine House, Bonine Carriage House, Stephen Bogue House and Brownsville School No. 1. Founded in 1828, the Michigan Historical Society is the oldest historical society in Michigan.

## PET OF THE WEEK

Meet **Taquito**, a two-year-old German Shepherd with Berrien County Animal Control. Taquito is described by volunteers as both affectionate and loyal. She is a "great" leash walker who doesn't pull and never jumps. Taquito is playful but also content to relax, be near you. She is perfect for a family, couple or single person wanting a medium energy, loving dog. She doesn't care for other dogs when first meeting, so she is best at being the only pet or a very slow introduction to other dogs. She is housetrained, current shots, spayed and chipped. Contact Berrien County Animal Control at (269) 927-5648.

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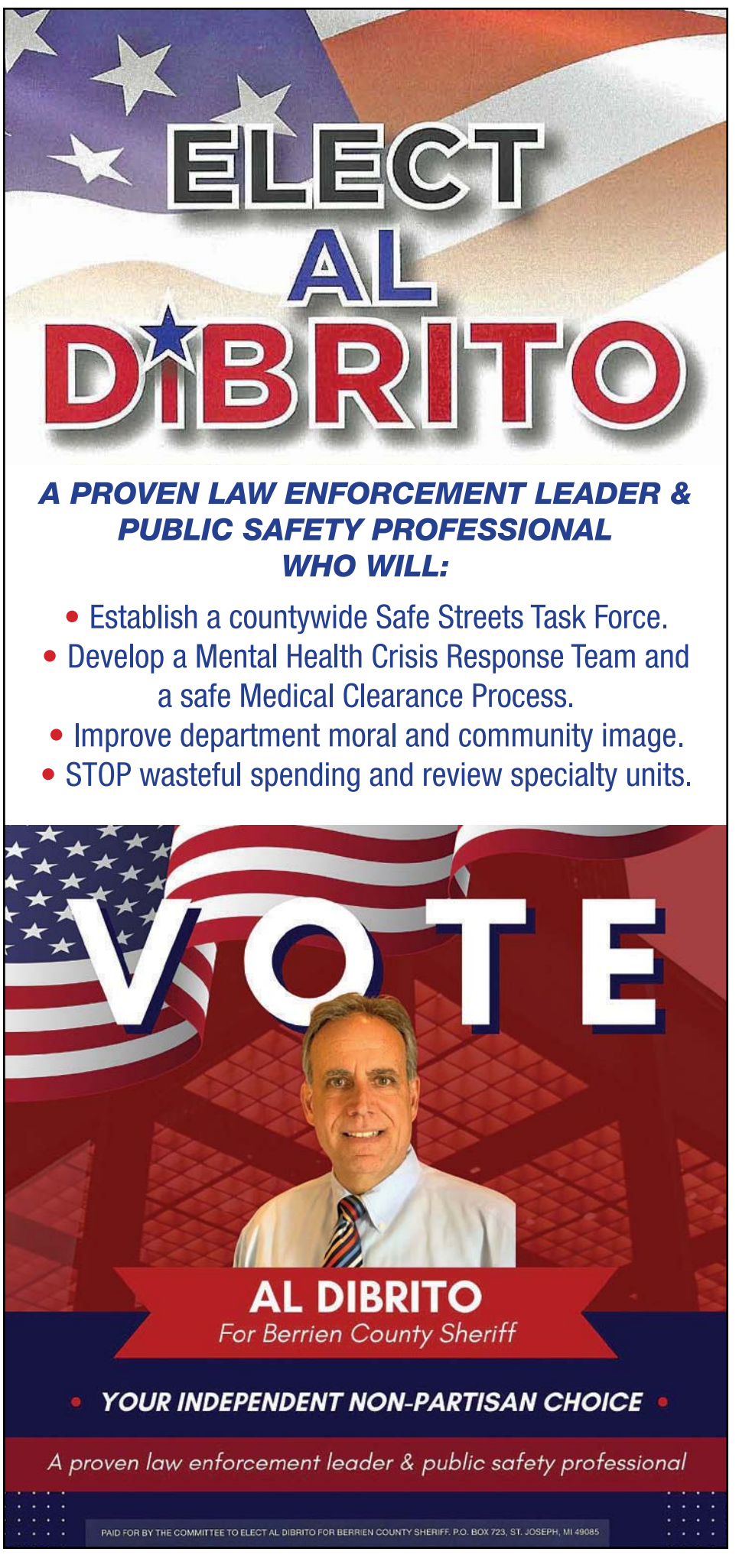
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# Opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Cass County Democrats Celebrate Courthouse Renovation

Cass County Commissioners, elected officials and employees can be rightly proud at the completion of the County Courthouse renovations. A historic landmark has been restored and services will be more easily accessible to county residents.

However, it is worth noting that this project, which will help government be more efficient and lower energy costs, was possible because of Democrats at the federal and state level. The renovation was funded in large part by the American Recovery Act, passed by Congress entirely by Democrats, without one Republican vote, which means our current 5th District Republican Congressman voted against it. The American Recovery Act was signed by Democratic President Joe Biden and administered by Democratic Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Cathy Lapointe, past chair of the Cass County Democratic Party, made the initial contact with Democratic US Senator Gary Peters who secured $1.5 million in a special appropriation to help finish the job.

Our county seat, Cassopolis, has been the beneficiary of nearly $20 million in grant money, building the public beach and pier, downtown beautification and connectivity, home improvements, and upgrades to energy efficiencies. Dowagiac and other county municipalities have all benefited from American Rescue Plan and Infrastructure Law. Nearly all these benefits came to Cass County by Democrats in Washington and Lansing and were opposed by nearly all Republicans.

Jim Pedersen, candidate for Cassopolis Village President, noted that "It took Democrats' investment in people and our communities, and working to overcome Republicans' constant drumbeat of cuts, cuts, cuts. And now, just look at the results – this beautifully restored building, and homes getting upgraded throughout Cass County, all despite Republican opposition."

Libbi Urban, candidate for US Congress, 5th District, who was present for the ribbon-cutting, stated, "This beautifully restored building, beautiful downtown, expanded broadband, and homes getting upgraded throughout Cass County are the kinds of projects I will support, in spite of any Republican opposition."

*Naomi Ludman*
*Chair, Cass County Democratic Party*

## Int'l Stuttering Awareness Day: 'Stuttering Help is Just One Click Away'

October 22nd marks International Stuttering Awareness Day. Stuttering affects more that 80 million people worldwide, and more than three million Americans.

Since 1947, the Stuttering Foundation has continuously expanded its services to reach anyone, anywhere, engaging millions of people in 168 countries and providing up-to-date information and help for the prevention of stuttering in young children and the most effective treatment available for teenagers and adults.

Most Stuttering Foundation materials are available free of charge on our website – StutteringHelp.org – including books and brochures translated into 46 languages, virtual learning sessions on Zoom, podcasts related to various stuttering issues and videos for all ages on our YouTube channel.

Stuttering help is just one click away.

*Jane Fraser*
*President, The Stuttering Foundation*
*Memphis, Tenn.*
*800-992-9392*

## Sharon Tyler for Berrien County Commissioner

With local elections coming up in less than 3 weeks it's time to consider who would best serve as Berrien County's Commissioner. No matter which political party you prefer we all want the same things for those we love. Things such as:

• Good hospitals & clinics for public health & wellness,

• A safe community, (safe streets & parks, community corrections, etc.),

• Leaders that act with good character and integrity in business, community, elections, etc.,

• Top-notch schools & day care centers, nursing homes, libraries, waste management, transportation, and more.

Berrien County's Commissioner is responsible for many things, including:

• making policies and then overseeing the operation and administration of these,

• promoting economic development for business groups and civic organizations,

• representing the interests of business and residential communities,

• . . . and much more.

• The Commissioner then communicates their home county's issues, desires and concerns to state legislators and federal policymakers.

With the scope of the duties performed by a county commissioner, good character, leadership skills, expertise, and experience are major factors to consider when choosing a County Commissioner.

For over 20 years I have had the privilege of knowing and observing Sharon Tyler in positions such as Director of Economic Development, Berrien County State Representative in Lansing, as well as Berrien County's Clerk.

Therefore, I would like to offer that Sharon Tyler is the best choice for our Berrien County Commissioner. Thank you for your time.

*Blessings,*
*Bob Feifar*
*Niles*

NEWS

# New dual enrollment director spans MTV, SMC

**COMMUNITY REPORT**

DOWAGIAC — New Director of Dual Enrollment Juliann Jankowski brings to Southwestern Michigan College her extensive higher education experience and a wealth of stories from her time at Club MTV.

Club MTV was a half-hour television show modeled after American Bandstand that aired on MTV from Aug. 31, 1987-June 26, 1992. It was part of the channel's second generation of programming, when it phased out the original five VJs to introduce new ones.

Jankowski, who joined SMC's Niles campus in June, took a public speaking class at the college from which her mother graduated before heading off to Michigan State University to study telecommunications.

As Juliann Locke, the Granger resident graduated from Ross Beatty High School and reigned as Miss Cassopolis in 1985. "When I was in high school, I did radio commercials at WDOW with Dean Bussler."

Jankowski graduated from MSU and the University of Notre Dame. She brings 12 years of higher education experience in enrollment and teaching and 14 years in leadership development and training to her new position.

"I took the SMC class the summer before I went to college to give myself confidence I could do well with college-level work. I originally intended to be a news reporter.

"When I was a junior, the summer before my senior year, I had three jobs and got an internship at MTV. I went back to MTV after I graduated and moved to New York City. I wanted to experience a big city, but my grandparents who raised me became ill, so I came back to this area to take care of them and took a job at WNIT, ran their big auction and worked in development for four years, then went into higher ed."

"I worked for Ivy Tech in business and industry training," Jankowski said. "Telecommunications came in handy facilitating panel discussions. I've done different things in radio and television throughout my career. I went to graduate school at Notre Dame and one of my classmates recruited me to come to Davenport University."

"I was hired as Director of Enrollment at Davenport, working with the South Bend and Goshen campuses," Jankowski said.

"I never went back to New York because I started having children. I ran Leadership South Bend Mishawaka for 12 years and did a lot of traveling as president of our national association, then went back to higher ed at Ivy Tech for four years during COVID."

Now she's an "empty nester" with her son at Indiana University Bloomington, a daughter in Chicago and a daughter in Australia. "I brought my kids to tour the Dowagiac campus and they were super impressed," she said.

SMC's dual enrollment numbers have bounced back post-pandemic to 512. The program lets students get a jump-start on degrees by earning college credit while still in high school — often for free.

Dual enrollment offers an introduction to the college environment, full access to college facilities, taking classes with higher-achieving students and college faculty. As long as they pass with a C or better, they complete the high school requirement and are granted highly transferable college credit on an official transcript.

Most students take two or three Michigan Transfer Agreement courses per semester, which are the English, math, science and humanities courses common to the first two years of study at any college.

"A number of students take online classes as part of their dual enrollment," Jankowski said.

Michigan expects local school districts to pay for up to 10 courses during their overall high school career unless the students are in Early Middle College, which 12 students are.

Jankowski also works with Heritage Southwest Intermediate School District in Cassopolis, whose Career Tech Education Department oversees vocational "career academies" with local high schools.

"Indiana does dual enrollment very differently," Jankowski said. "Their focus is on students who probably wouldn't go to college, from first generation to under-represented minorities. High school teachers get credentialed to teach college courses. Ninety-five percent of our dual enrollment was direct credit. The state reimbursed a certain amount to whoever delivers credits. I love that most dual-enrolled SMC students come on campus here to really feel like college students."

Jankowski focuses on Cass and Berrien counties and recently met with Berrien Springs and Watervliet officials. She also works with home-school partnerships such as Berrien Springs and Niles, or they can come on their own if certain standards are met.

"I'm a big believer in dual enrollment," she said. "I'm very passionate about what is such a great opportunity for high school students."

Niles Daily Star

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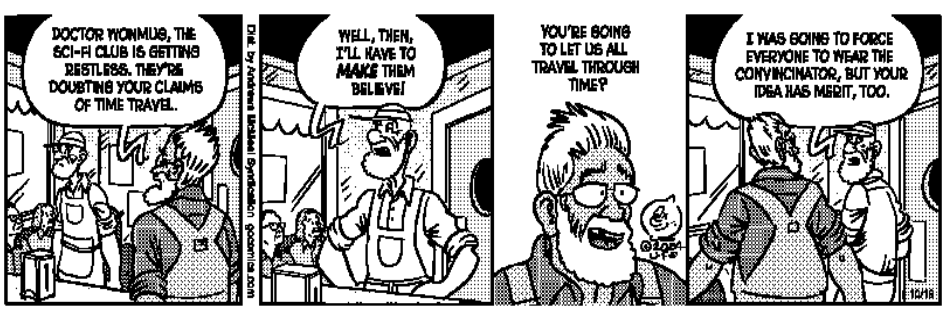
# COMICS & PUZZLES

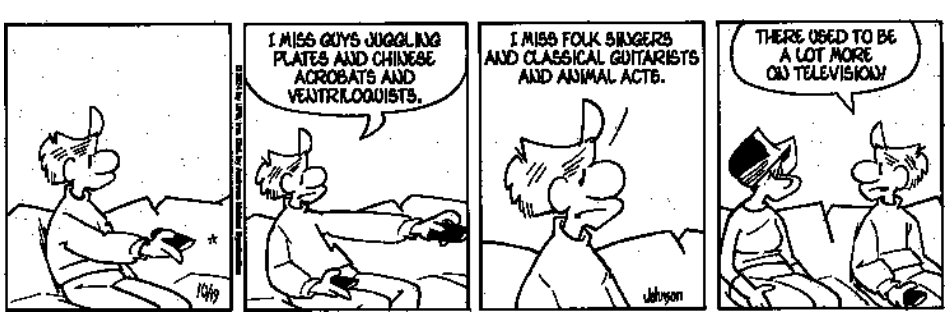
## ADAM

WHY DO YOU THINK CLAYTON LIKES HALLOWEEN SO MUCH, AND I LIKE CHRISTMAS SO MUCH?
HMM. I DON'T KNOW.
IS IT BECAUSE I'M SO SWEET AND MERRY AND...
I'M GONNA GO AHEAD AND CUT YOU OFF THERE.
YEAH, EVEN I KNEW THAT WASN'T SOUNDING RIGHT.

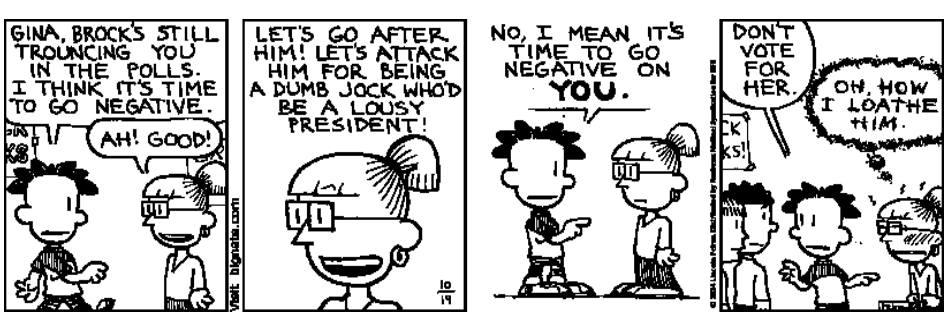
## ALLEY OOP


DOCTOR WONMUG, THE SCI-FI CLUB IS GETTING RESTLESS. THEY'RE DOUBTING YOUR CLAIMS OF TIME TRAVEL.
WELL, THEN, I'LL HAVE TO MAKE THEM BELIEVE!
YOU'RE GOING TO LET US ALL TRAVEL THROUGH TIME?
I WAS GOING TO FORCE EVERYONE TO WEAR THE CONVINCINATOR, BUT YOUR IDEA HAS MERIT, TOO.

## ARLO & JANIS


I MISS GUYS JUGGLING PLATES AND CHINESE ACROBATS AND VENTRILOQUISTS.
I MISS FOLK SINGERS AND CLASSICAL GUITARISTS AND ANIMAL ACTS.
THERE USED TO BE A LOT MORE ON TELEVISION!

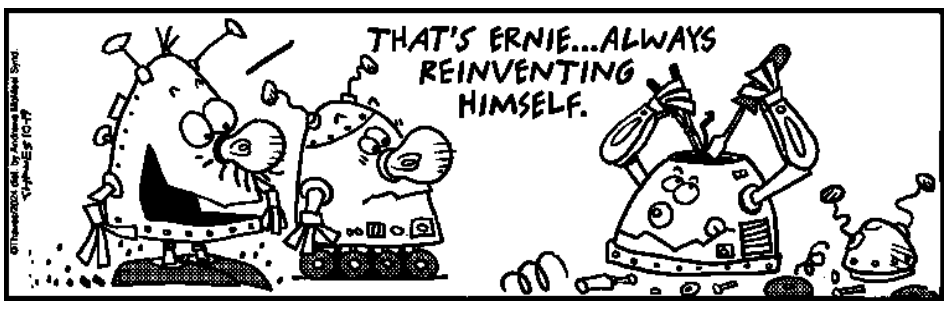
## BIG NATE


GINA, BROCK'S STILL TROUNCING YOU IN THE POLLS. I THINK IT'S TIME TO GO NEGATIVE.
AH! GOOD!
LET'S GO AFTER HIM! LET'S ATTACK HIM FOR BEING A DUMB JOCK WHO'D BE A LOUSY PRESIDENT!
NO, I MEAN IT'S TIME TO GO NEGATIVE ON YOU.
DON'T VOTE FOR HER.
OH, HOW I LOATHE HIM.

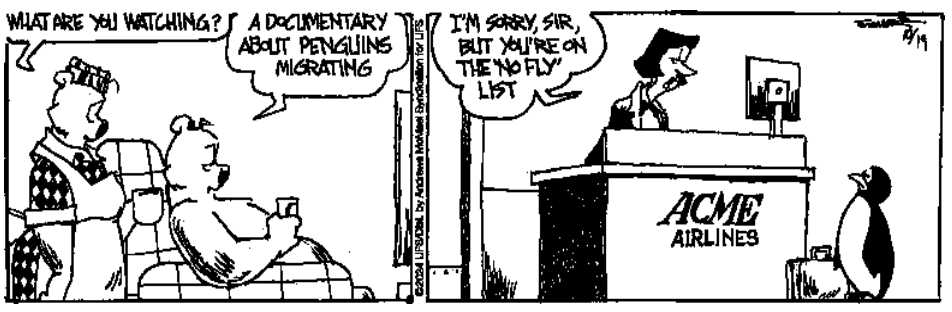
## BORN LOSER

DID I EVER TELL YOU I WAS A TACKLE ON MY SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM?
NO KIDDING, POP? WERE YOU AN OFFENSIVE OR DEFENSIVE TACKLE?
DEFINITELY OFFENSIVE... HIGHLY OFFENSIVE!

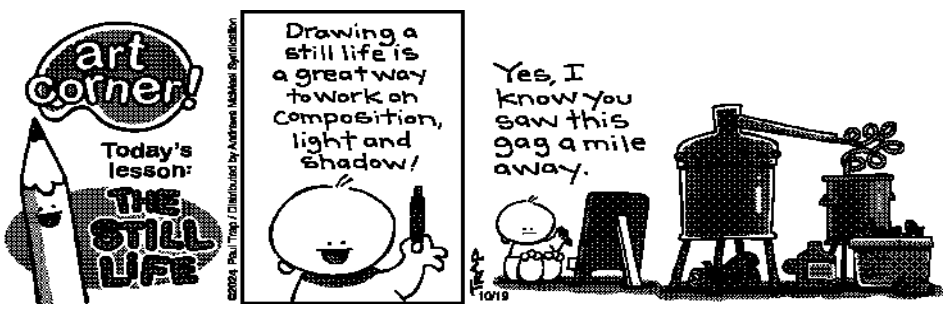
## FRANK & ERNEST




## GRIZZWELLS




## THATABABY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## SODOKU PUZZLE

**HOW TO PLAY:** Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

**DIFFICULTY RATING:** 5/5

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 4 | | | 5 |
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| 8 | | | | 5 | | | | 3 |
| | 5 | | 3 | 4 | | | 7 | |
| | | 1 | | 7 | | 6 | | |
| | 3 | | | 9 | 8 | | 2 | |
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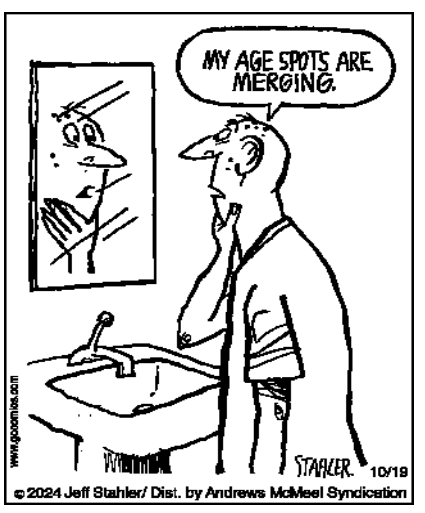
| 4 | | | 7 | | | | | |

## MODERATELY CONFUSED



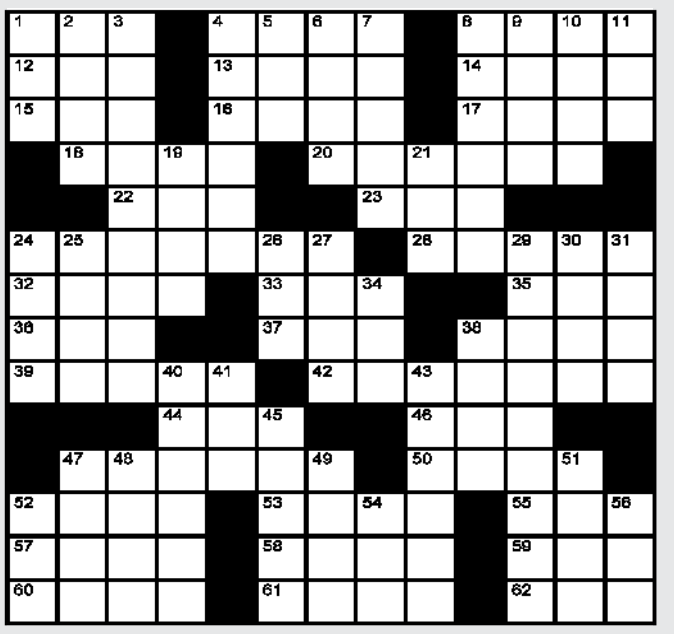

## REALITY CHECK

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**
1 Double-decker
4 Church service
8 Like a missing GI
12 Tolkien monster
13 Ancient Greek coin
14 Neck part
15 DHS agency
16 Sandwich shop
17 — the Terrible
18 Vaulted area
20 Nail polish
22 Poet's "always"
23 Wildebeest
24 Crisp cotton fabric
28 Variety — — spice of life
32 Subject to debate
33 Ruby or Sandra
35 Regret
36 — — matter of fact
37 Naval rank (abbr.)
38 Reveal
39 Fashionably dated
42 Like a hinge needing oil
44 Network letters
46 Cushion
47 Vilify
50 Sailors' saint
52 Highway hauler
53 Desktop picture
55 — Jima
57 Norse god
58 Mertz or Flintstone
59 Directed
60 Had on
61 Pelts
62 Hallucinogenic drug

**DOWN**
1 Automaton, for short
2 — Major
3 One unfairly blamed
4 Up-to-date
5 Presidential nickname
6 Foot part
7 Broken arm support
8 Ill will
9 Tsunami
10 Iridescent stone
11 Actor — Cariou
19 Pants part
21 Black cuckoo
24 Actor — Epps
25 Fragrant flower
26 JFK predecessor
27 Desires
29 Gym machine
30 Bruce Banner's alter ego
31 Like a moray
34 Lawyer's letters
38 Greenish-blue
40 Gully
41 Kimono accessory
43 Overturns
45 Precipice
47 Change the decor
48 Arab VIP
49 Beige
51 Has unpaid debts
52 Pig
54 "— the land of the free ..."
56 Peculiar

ANSWER ON PAGE 6



10-19

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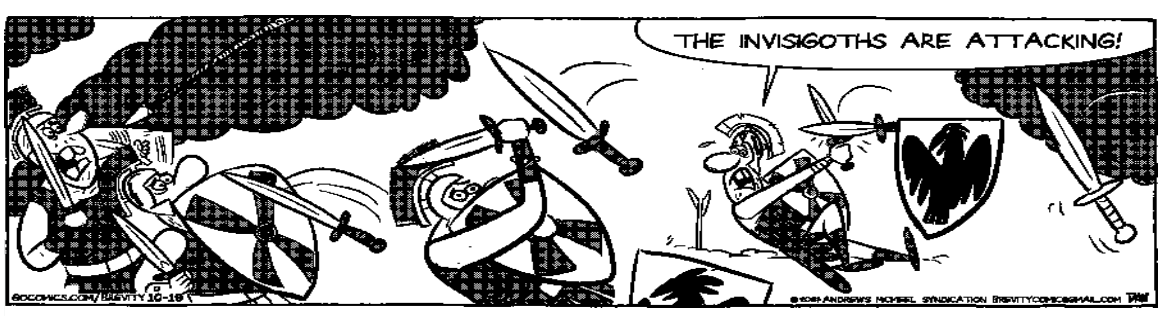
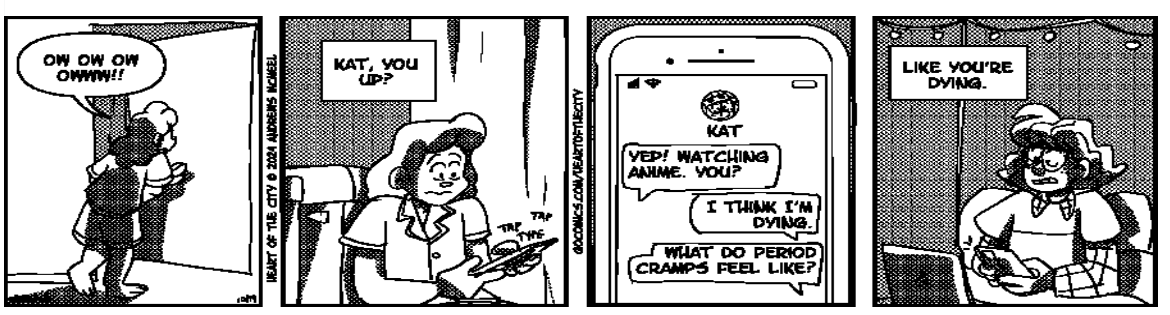
## REALITY CHECK




## BREVITY




## HEART OF THE CITY



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## DEATH NOTICES

**Joyce Leer,** 93, of Niles, passed away on October 07, 2024 at Westwoods of Niles. Allred Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements. A memorial service will be held. www.AllredFuneralHome.com

**Carol Cuthbert,** 76, of Niles, passed away on Friday, October 11, 2024 peacefully at home. Arrangements have been entrusted to Bowerman Funeral Home in Eau Claire, Michigan. www.BowermanFuneral.com

**George Richter,** 87, of Niles, passed away on Sunday, October 13, 2024. Arrangements have been entrusted to Bowerman Funeral Home in Eau Claire, Michigan. No services have been planned. www.BowermanFuneral.com

**Lawanda May,** 76, of Cassopolis, died Monday, October 14, 2024. Arrangements are pending at Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis.

## OBITUARIES

### Patsy Jean Meachum

*December 22, 1932 - October 13, 2024*

PATSY JEAN MEACHUM, age 91, passed peacefully on 13 October 2024 at White Oaks Assisted Living in Lawton, MI. She was born 22 December 1932 in South Bend, IN, to Norbert Patrick & Virginia (Wishman) Moran. She was a graduate of Shortridge High School in Indianapolis, IN; Ball State University; Michigan State University; and Western Michigan University.

Patsy started her teaching career in Dowagiac, Michigan, in 1955, after graduating from Ball State. She would meet Jim Meachum on Dewey Lake, where her father had a summer cottage. Jim was the owner of a horse riding stable, earning money to go to college. On 29 October 1955, she married Henry James Meachum III, while they were in East Lansing. Two years later, they would graduate together from MSU; she with an MA, and he with a DVM. After their graduation, they moved to Hartford but returned to Dewey Lake in the summers.

With Jim by her side, she would teach in Hartford, in Lawrence at the Intermediate School District as a reading specialist, Dowagiac, Sister Lakes, as well as Broward County and Dade counties in Florida. She would also serve as President of the American Veterinary Association Auxillary in the 1960s and accompany her husband to veterinary events. Jim and Patsy were avid supporters of Michigan State University and held season football tickets for 70 years. We always knew where they were on Saturdays in the fall. On Sundays, they were lifetime members of the Hartford United Methodist Church, where Jim had been a member since birth. They also attended the Sabino Canyon United Methodist Church during the 15 years they lived near Tucson, AZ. She enjoyed knitting in her free time.

Patsy was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, who died in 2016, and her parents.

She is survived by four children: Virginia of Paw Paw, Henry (Jim) of Almena, Patti Jo (Denis) Huffman of Hartford, and Daniel. She also has a sister, Doris Fulton, of St. Clair, MI; 4 grandchildren: Jami (Jon) Mabb of Hillsborough, NC, Tom Leibering of Kendall Park, NJ, Alyssa (Matt) VanAken of Almena, MI, and Miranda (Jake) Yohn of Cary, IL; and 3 great grandchildren: Bryar VanAken, Gable VanAken, and Nora Yohn.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Tuesday, 22 Oct 2024, at the Hartford United Methodist Church in Hartford, MI, at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Hartford United Methodist Church. At a later date, the family will have their ashes interred together at Maple Hill Cemetery in Hartford, Michigan.

### Marsha Lusk Francis

*March 13, 1937 - October 11, 2024*

Marsha Lusk Francis, 87, of Cassopolis, died peacefully Friday, October 11, 2024, in her home.

Her life began March 13, 1937, in Grayslake, Illinois, the eldest of two children born to Edward and Elma (Spencer) Lusk. She grew up in Lake Zurich, Illinois. After graduating from the University of Illinois, as a member of Kappa Delta Sorority, she married Ronald Wiggins Francis June 21, 1958, in Lake Zurich, Illinois. He preceded her in death in March of 2021, after nearly sixty-years of marriage. She was also preceded in death by her son, Reid, in 2020.

Marsha will be dearly missed by family and friends. She is survived by her daughter, Shari Soncrant of Englewood, Florida; her daughter-in-law, Janet Francis of Cassopolis; five grandchildren, Hayley (Blake) Oliver of Toledo, Ohio, Austin (Miranda) Francis of Cassopolis, Brittany Francis of Denver, Colorado, Gavin (Paige) Francis, Lane Francis, both of Cassopolis; six great-grandchildren, Nixon Oliver, Deacon Oliver, Lillian Francis, Eloise Francis, Lincoln Francis, including one on the way; sister, Marlene Tutt of Marco Island, Florida; sister-in-law, Marilyn Stone of Chicago, Illinois; and a host of beloved nieces and nephews.

When Marsha met Ron in college, she was introduced to his family and the wonders of Diamond Lake, which she came to cherish both. She considered herself blessed beyond measure to enjoy living on the lake for the bulk of her life. Her home and family were her passion, and she took great pride and pleasure in entertaining family and friends frequently, sharing the joys of lake life.

From 1968 through 1971, Ron and Marsha moved their family to Tokyo, Japan, during Ron's tenure with Miles Laboratories. Marsha embraced the opportunity to step far out of her comfort zone and take on the challenges of raising two young children in a foreign country, thousands of miles from extended family. While living there, they took advantage of the opportunity to travel the world extensively and shared many wonderful adventures and experiences.

Upon returning to the states, they established their year round home on Diamond Lake where Marsha focused on being a homemaker, mom, and valuable partner, while Ron built his printing business, Impressions Inc.. When Ron was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2004, Marsha became his champion and dove into researching all she could to learn about the disease and how to best help him cope and thrive. She ultimately became his full-time caregiver, only ceding that responsibility when it became more than she could physically manage but staying by his side until his passing.

Marsha cherished her time with family and was especially excited about watching her grandchildren become parents and knowing her great-grandchildren. A number of years ago, she joined a weekly ladies card group and loved making some new friends and frequently hosting the group. She continued annual trips to Florida that she and Ron had always made every winter, as well.

Her family looks forward to welcoming friends to remember and celebrate Marsha's life during an Open House on Saturday, October 26, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. in Diamond Lake Yacht Club, 21316 Shore Acres Road, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031.

The family prefers contributions in memory of Marsha be made to The Cass County Council on Aging, Post Office Box 5, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031-0005 or at casscoa.org, or to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Grand Central Station, Post Office Box 4777, New York, New York 10163 or at give.michaeljfox.org.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

### Harold Albert Reid Sr.

*November 30, 1935 — October 16, 2024*

It is with a mixture of sadness and loving reflection that we announce the passing of Harold Albert Reid Sr. on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 in St. Joseph, MI born on November 30, 1935, in Mendon, MI. Harold, a lifelong resident of Niles, MI, and recently moved to Buchanan, MI was a man of resilience, compassion, and unmatched work ethic. His life was punctuated by the hearty laughter he shared with family and friends, the wisdom he imparted through his stories, and the love he had for his community. Harold was a proud US Air Force veteran.

Harold was renowned for his skills as an automotive mechanic, a profession he loved dearly and from which he retired as the owner of Reid's Garage. His dedication to his craft was only surpassed by his dedication to his family. Those who knew Harold will remember him as a man who could fix anything. His legacy lives on through his sons, Mikel (Treva), Anthony (Patty), Troy (Christina); and his beloved sisters, Carolyn (Steve) Burger and Wilma Dunnivan, and his cherished grandchildren, Timmy, Caleb, Anthony, and Brandon. Harold's tireless spirit and boundless love will be missed immensely.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Mildred Reid, his cherished wife, Ruby Reid, and their son, Harold Jr. His life and memory will be honored during a visitation at Hoven Funeral Home, 414 East Front Street, Buchanan, Michigan, 49107, on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. EDT. A graveside service will follow at 1:30 p.m. EDT at Smith Chapel, 29858 Redfield Street, Niles, Michigan, 49120. Family will celebrate Harold's life at a later date.

In celebrating Harold's life, we invite all who knew and loved him to share their memories, stories, and photographs on his memorial page. Through these shared reminiscences, may we keep his spirit alive and honor the extraordinary man that Harold Reid Sr. truly was.

### CROSSWORD ANSWER
From Page 5

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### SUDOKU ANSWER
From Page 5

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| 6 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 2 |
| 8 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 9 |
| 9 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 8 |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 4 |
| 5 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 1 |
| 4 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 |

# Homeless man gets jail time for YMCA break-in

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

NILES — A homeless man who broke into the Niles YMCA and a nearby parked car was sentenced to jail Monday in Berrien County Trial Court at the Niles courthouse.

Hemminger

Michael Robert Hemminger, 66, homeless, pleaded guilty to breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny and was sentenced to 180 days in jail with credit for 98 days served and $198 in fines and costs. He was also sentenced to time served for disorderly person and breaking and entering a motor vehicle to stealing property less than $200.

The incident occurred July 8 in Niles at the Niles YMCA on Front Street. He had been sentenced in April for a similar incident when he broke into the First Presbyterian Church in Niles in May, 2023.

Berrien County Assistant Prosecutor Jerry Vigansky noted that Hemminger has a fairly extensive record although he had no criminal convictions for over 10 years from 2010 to 2023. Vigansky said that most of the convictions were for similar offenses involving illegal entry and theft.

Defense attorney Daniel French said most of Hemminger's past convictions were for misdemeanors which he described as "low level" property offenses and crimes of opportunity. French said in this case Hemminger was hungry and looking for food.

Berrien County Trial Court Judge Jennifer Smith told Hemminger that there are resources out there for him to tap into rather than breaking into a building or a car. "You may be cold and hungry but you're not allowed to break into a building," she said.

"There are resources to help you find food and shelter," she added. "You need to use those, otherwise eventually you could end up in prison or in a worse situation if someone is armed. I'd like to see you get back to where there is a 10 year gap between crimes and use community resources rather than other people's property."

A military veteran who fled police last fall was sentenced to jail.

Adam Christopher Koch, 38, of Bridgman, pleaded guilty to fourth-degree fleeing and eluding police and was sentenced to 30 days in jail with credit for three days served and $258 in fines and costs.

The incident occurred Nov. 30, 2023 in Niles Township and he was eventually stopped and arrested in Indiana after going speeds of up to 110 miles per hour. He was also sentenced in Indiana for a similar crime to jail and probation.

Koch

French noted that Koch is a military veteran and suffered a disability while he was deployed. French called the incident an "aberration" and said Koch is currently employed and doesn't have much criminal history.

"I'm very sorry, I want to apologize for what I did," Koch said. He said he had been living alone previously and hadn't been taking his medications. He now lives with his father.

"You not only put a lot of others in danger, you put yourself in danger," Judge Smith said. "You were military police in the service and you told police in this incident that you were going to 'shoot it out' with someone. This was very serious behavior."

"You have to understand that if you're hearing voices, you need to get treatment," she added. "This could have been much more serious. My duty in sentencing you is in part for community protection based on the dangerous nature of the incident."

A Buchanan man was sentenced to probation after an altercation with his estranged wife.

Jacob Christopher Furst, 26, of Buchanan, pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon and was sentenced to two years probation, credit for 12 days served and $658 in fines and costs. He was also sentenced to credit for 10 days served for contempt of court for having contact with the victim while out on bond.

The incident occurred April 18 in Buchanan Township when he assaulted his estranged wife with a car.

Defense attorney Carri Briseno said Furst is in the process of getting a divorce and is working in Edwardsburg. "I'm sorry for what I did, I know what I did was not right," Furst said. "I won't do this again."

Judge Smith said that there is the potential for a serious result whenever any type of weapon is involved no matter if that was the intention. She told Furst he needs to continue to get mental health treatment.

### In other sentencings:

• William Edward Moody, Jr., 37, of Evansville, Ind. pleaded guilty to possession of a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle and was sentenced to credit for four days served, weapon forfeited and $558 in fines and costs. The incident occurred July 5 in Niles Township.

Moody

• Chelsie Lea Pickens, 29, of Mishawaka, pleaded guilty to third-degree home invasion and was sentenced to one year probation and $508 in fines and costs. She broke into a home in Niles on May 29 to retrieve an item for a friend.

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# FIGHT

Continued from page A1

Crossing, 227 S. Front St., Dowagiac, that takes participants through boxing exercises that help to address Parkinson's disease – a chronic, progressive brain disorder that affects movement and other parts of the body. The exercises help address symptoms such as tremor, balance, memory, posture and strength, as well as increasing fitness levels.

"It helps them in their mobility to get up and to respond to commands," Swann said. "Like 'one-two, one-two.' They respond to that and it works with their mind and they can understand better how to control their movements. It's so fulfilling to have it and do fun things with it. It's not intimidating – it's a program that really works."

Parkinson's Power Punchers typically lasts about one hour and consists of stretches and warm-up exercises to prepare the body for the workout and to avoid injury, punching speed bags to help improve coordination and posture as well as footwork exercises. Vocal exercises are incorporated into the workout to help with any voice disorder symptoms of Parkinson's.

"(Parkinson's) is not only movement and having a tremor, that's really only a part of it," said Carol Loyer, a regular at Parkinson's Power Puchers. "There are a lot of other medical issues that can come up with it. There are problems with voice and with speaking. He encourages us to vocalize while we're doing that. There are problems in cognition. There are problems with coordination and balance and shouting out what order we're doing things helps with our memory and causation as far as being able to function better, so that helps us function better in society. It actually affects many other organ systems but the main one that people see is the tremor."

There are also group exercises that focus on socialization and community in each class. Participants are encouraged to bring in newspaper and magazine articles to share regarding Parkinson's and fitness.

"Coach is an inspiration," Loyer said. "He keeps us going, we have a great sense of community here and he helps us to focus on what we can do. It means a lot – when something is fun, you pursue it. If it's a drag, you're just going to drop it and it's so important for Parkinson's patients to move. He inspires us to move and keep going. It's a community. We share different sources of information here. It's really a support group, in addition to being a boxing class. He inspires us to keep doing what we can do and not to focus on the past and that really helps."

"It helps to do the exercises but also the people you're around – communicating, swapping articles that you might find in a magazine or in a health journal, or whatever it could be and we pass it along and help everybody out the best we can," added Jim Brosnan. "We're all equals."

For Loyer and her classmates, Swann's class is an activity they look forward to attending.

"There are a lot of other things that are offered here, but this is the most fun thing of my week and I go to a bunch of different exercise classes," Loyer said. "I keep coming because this is the most fun thing of the week and that keeps you going."

### Called to serve

Swann served in the Navy from 1962 to 1966 before moving to Long Beach, California, where he went to work at the naval shipyard there. In 1996, he retired from the shipyard and moved to Dowagiac with his wife Alice, in order to help take care of her mother. While in Dowagiac, Swann has given boxing lessons at Southwestern Michigan College, the Cass County Council on Aging Front Street Crossing facility and the Fit Stop 24 location in downtown Dowagiac.

While Swann has been retired for nearly 30 years, he still enjoys working on projects and engaging the area's youth and elderly. It is what keeps him going.

"I realized my age and I realized that people in my age bracket don't have a lot of people that they associate with and talk to," Swann said. "It's just in my spirit that I have to look out for other people. I love working with people – I'm a people person and I want to do all I can to help as many people as I can in any way I can. They don't have to box, we can just sit and talk and do exercise and do some push ups or whatever they want to do. It's what I love doing. You have to want to give back."

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# GROW

Continued from page A1

The expanded social district was welcomed by LiveBuchanan co-chair Randy Hendrixson and McCullom Livery partner Michael Reed. Hendrixson called the social district expansion "incredibly important" to entice new businesses to the city and offer more opportunities to existing businesses.

Reed and his partners are developing the former Livery property into a boutique hotel on Days Avenue set to open next summer. The property previously was outside of the social district boundaries. He said they are down to the last steps needed to get a liquor redevelopment license and being part of the expanded social district will help them move forward.

The commission earlier this summer approved a 12 year obsolete property rehabilitation tax break on the $3.5 million budget and developers are getting a $1.2 million state grant. The boutique hotel is expected to create 20 long term jobs as well as many as 50 short term construction jobs.

Murphy noted that expanding the social district will allow the city attract more development. "A lot has changed since 2021 when we first created it," he said. "We haven't used this tool as much as we could but now we have the energy from new businesses and investments. I look at this as an economic development tool to bring jobs and investments that will increase our tax base and hopefully lower people's taxes."

"It's critical for us to grow the district and get liquor licenses in the hands of investors," he added. "This is incentivizing and anticipating future investment. Our competitors are using tools like this and we have to put it in our tool box … We want to set developers up for success."

Other commission action Monday included approving the SMCAS assessment roll. Commissioners voted two weeks ago to set the per parcel assessment rate at $25 annually for the next 5 years with the rest of the money the city owes to SMCAS coming out of the general fund. The $25 annual rate is less than the proposed $40 per parcel rate initially suggested.

Commissioners approved a new three year contract with the union representing DPW workers. City Manager Tim Lynch said the 14 DPW workers will get a 3.5 percent raise this year and three percent raises each of the next two years. The contract is retroactive to July 1. Newer employees will get the chance to move up the pay scale faster and the lowest level on the pay scale has been eliminated.

Commissioners took one item off their long term capital equipment wish list as they approved the purchase of a new street sweeper for $314,155. Swem said the commission has been talking about replacing the city's 2007 sweeper for a couple of years and set it as a priority at their March goal setting session.

Money for the purchase will be taken from the city's general, streets and water-sewer funds.

Commissioners also heard updates from Lynch on ongoing projects. He said the bid for a new retaining wall on East Front Street should be awarded at the commission's Oct. 28 meeting and that work should be done by the end of the year. The sidewalk is currently blocked along that section. It is expected to cost $350,000.

Lynch said design work is done to repair the Days Avenue sink hole and that the bid for the project should be awarded at the commission's Nov. 12 meeting. He said construction will start as soon as possible and be done by next spring. It is expected to cost $1.1 million.

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# MEMBER

Continued from page A1

and security concerns can be addressed. Colby said his first goal would be to make sure any board action doesn't put the district in legal jeopardy.

He added that he would want to make sure that data shows there are real problems when it comes to student privacy and security concerns. "We should have some data that says we are solving a real problem here and not putting a bunch of resources and time into something where the data shows that we're not seeing a problem," he said.

"Let's make sure we're dealing with what is actually in front of us versus what in theory could be there," he added. "I don't want anything unsafe to happen."

In her interview, Lawrence praised the school district for its family and community spirit and said her husband graduated from Brandywine and she has three grandchildren attending Brandywine schools. She is an author, has operated a community newspaper in the past and has volunteered with community festivals.

She was asked one question by Jarpe. He asked about an answer she gave about what parents should do if they have a school-related concern about their child. He had interpreted her answer to be that a parent should go to the child's teacher and then to a school board member.

Lawrence said that parents should follow the chain of command, going first to the teacher, then the principal and superintendent before going to the school board.

Board members had no discussion about the two candidates before voting to appoint Colby to fill the vacancy left by Payne's resignation. Colby will serve the remainder of Payne's term through December, 2026.

Board members then went on to the appointment of a new board vice-president. Jarpe, who was appointed to the board in August after Seastrom's resignation, was nominated and then voted to fill that position through the end of the calendar year. A full slate of new board officers will be elected in January.

The November election will feature Jarpe as the only one running for the partial two-year term left from the Seastrom resignation and five people running for three four-year terms. Those running for the three four-year terms are incumbents Jessica Crouch and Holly Pomranka as well as Colby, Ryan Candler and Shannon Daniels.

KRUSH
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13 & 14 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
15 & 16 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
17 & 18 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
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Niles Daily Star
# Sports

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FOOTBALL

## Ranger pride: Cassopolis celebrates seniors after canceling football season

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
max.harden@leaderpub.com

CASSOPOLIS — The William F. Scott Field stands were packed full of proud parents, family members and community members celebrating and recognizing the Cassopolis senior football players, band members and cheerleaders for a Senior Night described by many as "bittersweet."

One by one, senior cheerleaders, band members and football players were introduced with their parents to the crowd, which responded with applause. The band also took the field to perform its 2024 fall program. Unlike most Senior Nights, there were no opposing players or fans on the away side of the field and the football players were not wearing pads. Less than 24 hours earlier, Cassopolis Public Schools made the difficult decision to cancel the high school football team's remaining two games on the schedule due to a lack of healthy, varsity-ready players.

"It was heartbreaking but it was a smart call from the coaches and athletic director and also the principal," Higgins said. There should be no hate or anything like that at all. It was a smart call – we're a small team and when you go to a small school, it happens. When you don't have the players to compete with the big kids, it happens. Life goes on and I promise that Cass will get back to doing what Cass does in football soon enough."

Despite the canceled season, the district wanted to celebrate the seniors who have given so much to the community these past four years.

"We're a small community," said High School Principal and

**See PRIDE,** Page B3

FOOTBALL

## EDWARDSBURG TURNOVERS COSTLY IN HOME LOSS TO NILES

**By SCOTT HASSINGER**
Leader Publications Contributor

EDWARDSBURG — The turnover bug bit Edwardsburg's football team in a 21-14 Wolverine Conference loss Friday, Oct. 11 to visiting Niles at Leo Hoffman Stadium.

The loss is the second straight for Dan Purlee's Eddies, now 4-3 overall and 3-2 in the league. Niles, meanwhile, won its sixth consecutive game and improved to 6-1 overall while staying unbeaten in conference play at 5-0.

After surrendering three first-half scores, Edwardsburg put the defensive clamps on Niles' flexbone offense in the second half.

After winning the coin toss and getting the ball to start the final half, Edwardsburg used its deceptive Wing-T attack and drove down to the Niles' 13 but Bryce Young's fumble recovery for the Vikings stymied the Eddies' scoring bid.

The Eddies forced a Vikings' punt late in the third quarter and took over possession. Edwardsburg came onto the field and ran three plays before being faced with a fourth and one situation at its own 34. A face-masking penalty on Niles, however, gave Edwardsburg a first down at the 50. The Eddies' Grant Griffin, Joe Lundgren and Brody Schimpa all carried for short gains to move the ball down to the Vikings' 36-yard line.

Schimpa, the Eddies' top ground gainer with 16 rushes for 82 yards and one TD, hauled in a 36-yard scoring pass from Lundgren with 11:09 left in the fourth quarter. Houseworth added the PAT and the Eddies were back within one score.

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**Niles senior tailback Sam Rucker (14) tries to hurdle over Edwardsburg tackler Joe Lundgren (3) in the first half of Friday's game.**

Houseworth's onside kick was recovered by teammate Cale Myers giving the Eddies the ball back at midfield.

A jubilant celebration by Edwardsburg fans was short lived after the Eddies turned the ball over two plays later with Alex Anderson recovering the fumble for Niles.

Niles' offense came on the field and Talen Bennett attempted a pass on first down that was intercepted by Edwardsburg's Cameron Hayden at the Eddies' 41.

Niles' defense then stiffened and held Edwardsburg on yet another fourth-down conversion attempt.

The Vikings' offense ran three plays before Rucker tried a fake punt on fourth down and was stopped short of the marker.

Edwardsburg's offense drove into Niles territory but the drive stalled after the Eddies were whistled for a holding penalty and were forced to punt.

The Eddies then held the Vikings in check for four downs and gave its offense one more chance with the football. Edwardsburg began its final series at its own 43 and drove down to Niles' 24 but Lundgren was intercepted on fourth down by Niles' 6-foot-7 junior Brendan Olsen.

"Our defense was on its heels a couple times near the end but it worked out. We couldn't get much going offensively in that second half and our defense was on the field way too long," said a relieved Niles head coach Scot

**See LOSS,** Page B3

SCOTT HASSINGER | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
**Chase Brawley (71) and Sam Rucker (14) combine to tackle an Edwardsburg ballcarrier.**

VOLLEYBALL

## Krush Volleyball to host tryouts for 2025 season

**COMMUNITY REPORT**

Krush Volleyball Club, a registered member of USA Volleyball and the AAU, is holding tryouts for the 2025 season Sunday, Nov. 3 at "Krush Courts" in Niles. Tryouts for the 10U-12U under teams are from 9 to 11 a.m., tryouts for 13U-14U are from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tryouts for 15U-16U are from 1 to 3 p.m. Tryouts for 17U-18U are from 3 to 4:30 p.m. An information meeting will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27. For directions to Krush Courts visit www.krushvbc.com or email dennis.cooper@krushvbc.com.

SOCCER

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

## Dowagiac falls to Hartford 6-0 in D3 boys soccer districts

**By MAXWELL HARDEN**
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BERRIEN SPRINGS — The Dowagiac boys soccer team's season came to a close Monday night against Hartford.

The Huskies shut down the Chieftains 6-0 in Division 3 district semifinal play Monday at Berrien Springs High School.

"I thought we came out a little slow," said Dowagiac coach Joseph Pasternak. "We had talked about that and we talked about giving up backside goals, rebound goals, those types of things. We talked a lot about those and we gave up a few early ones and we were fighting from behind for a while."

HHartford had 11 shots on goal compared to Dowagiac's two. Goalkeeper Tyler Hannapel made 11 saves in net.

"Andreas had an off game today, but still played well, as did our center-back Mason Bressler and our goalkeeper Tyler Hannapel," Pasternak said. "We made some minor mistakes which put us behind. We didn't play our best today."

The Chieftains finish the season with a 4-12-2 record. While sad to see the season come to an end, Pasternak was proud of his team's effort this season.

**See FALLS,** Page B3

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

VOLLEYBALL

# Edwardsburg spikers earn three-game sweep of visiting Niles

By SCOTT HASSINGER
Leader Publications Contributor

EDWARDSBURG — The backyard rivalry between Edwardsburg and Niles is always intense, but Oct. 10's Wolverine Conference battle in volleyball generated extra excitement.

Not only was a piece of first place on the line, but household bragging rights were also at stake.

That's because Edwardsburg's Sarah Strefling and Niles first-year coach Vince Strefling happen to be married.

The Streflings sent their respective programs up against one another and when the dust cleared it was Edwardsburg walking away with a three-set sweep of Niles 25-23, 25-15, 25-22.

Edwardsburg also won the freshman and junior varsity matches in straight sets as well.

The win improves Edwardsburg's overall record to 11-20 overall, including a 3-1 league mark. The Lady Eddies are currently tied with Niles and Three Rivers for first place.

Edwardsburg's young team continues to show improvement with the postseason just a few weeks away.

The Lady Eddies graduated five seniors after losing in the Division 2 state quarterfinals to Grand Rapids Christian. This year's team has been a work in progress with just three seniors, along with four juniors and six sophomores comprising the roster.

"We've kind've had a rocky season so for us to come in and step up like we did tonight was huge against a good team," Sarah Strefling said.

Edwardsburg is currently without it's No. 1 setter Rylie Rosenkrantz, who sprained her ankle a couple weeks ago. Rosencrantz, however, is expected back in the lineup soon.

Edwardsburg's coach applauded the efforts of backup setter and sophomore Olive Walk who has stepped up in Rosenkrantz's absence and ran the Lady Eddies' offense effectively.

"Olive has stepped up and done a great job and the team has kind've rallied around her. I was really proud of her tonight and the team's leadership. There was a lot of talk and communication out on the court. Our kids are finally starting to see that winning takes more than just playing good volleyball. It takes energy and camaraderie of all 14 girls. We're just looking to get better here over the next few weeks," Sarah Strefling said.

Walk posted 32 assists to go with one kill and two blocks.

Junior outside hitter Sarah Pippin led Niles' play at the net with 16 kills to go with four digs and one ace. The star Lady Eddies' hitter recorded her 1000th career kill during the match.

Sophomore right-side hitter Ella Laskowski contributed 11 kills, nine digs, one block and a pair of aces. Junior middle blocker Mya Eberlein added seven kills and one block. Sophomore outside hitter Kya Shier posted five kills, six digs and one ace and sophomore libero Sophie Kuntz came up with eight digs and one ace.

"Our hitters are playing very well, we're getting our middles more involved and our blocking has been huge. Kya has come out of nowhere and performed well. I've had a couple of her sisters play for me and now she has really developed and filled a big role for us. All 14 of our girls are athletic and very competitive. Sometimes that works against them and they tense up, but we just have to work against that and relax and have fun," Edwardsburg's coach said.

The opening set saw the two sides tied on seven occasions. Two consecutive kills by Pippin gave the Lady Eddies a 16-14 lead. Laskowski's ace gave the hosts its largest lead in the game at 23-18. Niles crept back within two (23-21) off the serve of Ellie Bradley. But the Eddies finished off the game with an Eberlein kill and took advantage of an unforced error by Niles.

Lake's kill and two straight aces gave Niles a quick 3-0 advantage in the second set. The game would be tied six times before Edwardsburg built a five-point cushion (18-13) following another kill by Pippin. Senior defensive specialist Alivia Kuntz provided seven service points, including a pair of aces, near the end of the game. Pippin's kill on game point put the hosts up 2-0 in the match.

"Our serving was very good tonight. That will be a big key along with us to be able to continue to make good passes later one this season," Sarah Strefling said.

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**ABOVE: Edwardsburg's Ella Lakowski (2) and teammate Khaylin Homan (8) block Bree Lake's kill attempt at the net for Niles.**
**BELOW: Bree Lake (7) from Niles records a kill for the Vikings in their Wolverine Conference match at Edwardsburg Thursday.**

Edwardsburg led the entire way in game three with the exception of an early 1-0 deficit. Walk and Khaylin Homan combined for a key block and point to put the Lady Eddies up 10-4.

Carrie Castillo came through with a huge kill late in the match to pull Niles within a point (24-23). But Edwardsburg won the game and and match on a thunderous kill down the line by Eberlein.

Although very passionate about volleyball and the success of their respective teams, the Streflings leave all that outside the door once they get home.

"He (Vince) has seen me come home frustrated many times, but at the end of the day our family and relationship takes priority over volleyball," Sarah Strefling said.

Niles, now 15-12-1 overall, was led at the net by Nyla Hover with 15 kills and Bree Lake posted 13. Lake also had four service aces.

Kaydence Jacobs had 29 assists for the Vikings and Maddie Zache was the team's top defensive player with nine digs.

The Vikings might've shown a bit of a letdown on the court, especially after the energy it expended in a five-set non-league win over South Bend, Ind. John Adams High School on Tuesday.

"We picked a poor night to have a letdown from our warmup all the way through. Tuesday was a long drawn out match and we played very well. That's no excuse though because our girls came into this match expecting to play well and win. It's been a while since we've been off like we were tonight," Vince Strefling said.

"One big difference tonight was that we weren't able to get our middle blockers involved like we normally do. That's how we beat Edwardsburg earlier this season was with strong play from our middles. Our team will be fine and we just have to watch film and see what we're doing wrong. Edwardsburg had a good game plan and Sarah does a nice job with her team. If my team doesn't win conference I'd like it to be Edwardsburg that does."

SOCCER

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

## Buchanan, Berrien Springs lead all-conference soccer picks

By MAXWELL HARDEN
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NILES — Lakeland Conference champion Berrien Springs and runner up Buchanan led the all league soccer team with four first team selections each.

Brandywine finished with three first team picks, while Dowagiac had two players selected.

First, team honorees for the Bucks were Mason Frontczak, Easton May, Preston Payne and Jacob Kuntz. Kyler Marshall, Pedro Segundo and Jayce Klapp were the first team selections for the Bobcats.

Andres Hernandez and Mason Bressler represented the Chieftains on the first team, while Ben Chilambo, Luis Escobar, Jefferson Perez and Elian Adrianmparany were the selections for the Shamrocks.

**ALL, LAKELAND CONFERENCE SOCCER**

**First Team**

Mason Frontczak, Buchanan
Easton May, Buchanan
Preston Payne, Buchanan
Jacob Kuntz, Buchanan
Ben Chilambo, Berrien Springs
Luis Escobar, Berrien Springs
Jefferson Perez, Berrien Springs
Elian Adriamparany, Berrien Springs
Kyler Marshall, Brandywine
Pedro Segundo, Brandywine
Mason Bressler, Dowagiac
Andres Hernandez, Dowagiac

**Goalkeeper**

Jayce Klapp, Brandywine

**Honorable Mention**

Nico Sanchez, Buchanan
Hunter Harrington, Buchanan
Payson Regan, Buchanan
Treyton Teshka, Buchanan
Henry Garcia, Berrien Springs
Steven Thames, Berrien Springs
Kevin Silva, Berrien Springs
Moses Say, Berrien Springs
Malachai Gamble
Jesus Salgado
Eli Stout, Dowagiac
Andres Brito, Dowagiac

**Goalkeeper**

Tyler Hannapel, Dowagiac

CROSS COUNTRY

## Edwardsburg, Niles cross country teams compete in conference meet

By MAXWELL HARDEN
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OTSEGO — The Edwardsburg and Niles boys and girls cross country teams competed in the Wolverine Conference Championship Meet Tuesday at Otsego.

The Edwardsburg boys placed second overall with a score of 47 and Niles placed eighth with 188 points. Three Rivers won the championship with a score of 47.

George Scupham led the Eddies with a fourth place finish of 16:26 and Maguire Johnson (17:11), Reed Gates (17:14) and Jack Bell (17:26) placed 18th, 19th and 20th. Beau (22nd, 17:39) and Ceon (30th,18:04) Kirkdoll led Niles.

On the girls' side, Otsego won the championship once again with a score of 32. Niles finished fifth with 137 points and Edwardsburg placed seventh with 146.

Otsego junior Emma Hoffman won the race in a time of 17:25. Niles senior Charlie Drew led the Vikings with a 14th place finish with a personal-best time of 20:20 and Claire DevlescHoward placed 24th with a time of 21:22. Freshman Layla Gableman led Edwardsburg with a time of 20:51, good for 18th place. Grace Leman (21:24) and Kennedy Kaylor (21:38) placed 25th and 26th for Edwardsburg.

## Buchanan boys, girls cross country teams win conference championships

By MAXWELL HARDEN
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NILES TOWNSHIP — The Buchanan boys and girls cross country team captured the Lakeland Conference Championship Meet hosted by Brandywine Tuesday.

The girls defeated Berrien Springs 28-46 and Brandywine 28-51. Buchanan's Madeline Young took first place with a time of 20:38, Brandywine's Miley Young (21:30.1) and Allison Murray (21:42) placed second and fifth and Dowagiac's Sadie Bonczynski (21:30.1) third.

Four Bucks placed in the top 10: Young, freshman Avery Mollberg ( fourth, 21:40), junior Makynna Williams (sixth, 21:43) and Isabelle Overmyer (ninth, 22:25).

On the boys' side, Buchanan beat Berrien Springs 26-31. Dowagiac senior Owen Saylor placed first with a time of 16:52. The Bucks placed six runners in the top 10: Liam McBeth (third, 16:56), Jack Sherwood (fifth, 17:49), Jacob Kuntz (sixth, 17:58), Coy Weinberg (eighth, 18:33), John Keser (ninth, 18:47.1) and Brodie Bryans (18:47.8).

Brandywine junior Cody Hoskins placed 21st with a time of 23:54.

FOOTBALL

# Buchanan football airs it out in 38-12 win over Hartford

By MAXWELL HARDEN
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HARTFORD — The Buchanan football team took care of business Friday against Hartford with a 38-12 win.

Quarterback Luke Zeiger completed 8 of 12 passes for 198 yards and four touchdown passes, two to Tyler Baker ( five catches, 109 yards) and Brody Reed ( two catches, 76 yards). Leland Payne had eight carries for 69 yards.

Tyler Pelletier led the team with 10 tackles and Jameson Pleasant tallied nine tackles and a sack and Owen Thompson tallied five tackles and a sack. The Bucks defense held the Huskies to 130 yards of offense.

"Overall, we were very pleased with our team's performance," said head coach Mark Frey. "We started a little slow, but once our guys locked in we played very well. Offensively, it was nice to move the ball around a little more. The last three weeks have been pretty run heavy due to the injury of quarterback Jake Franklin. However, Luke Zeiger played a great game managing our offense and was able to show that we can be a more balanced team. Defensively, our guys played physical football which was nice to see going into our last conference game."

The Bucks face Dowagiac at 7 p.m. Friday at Dowagiac.

# Freeman selected to Bear Bryant Coach of the Year Award Watch List

COMMUNITY REPORT

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Dick Corbett Head Football Coach Marcus Freeman has been named to the watch list for the American Heart Association's 2024 Bear Bryant Coach of the Year Award, honoring contributions that make the sport better for athletes and fans alike by demonstrating grit, integrity and a winning approach to coaching and life – both on and off the field.

Freeman has been named the honorary head coach for the 2024 AFCA Allstate Good Works Team and has also been selected to the Dodd Trophy watch list for the 2024 season.

The Irish stand at 5-1 on the 2024 season, with two victories over teams ranked in the Associated Press Top 25. Freeman's nine wins over ranked opponents are already the second-most of any Notre Dame football coach over the course of their first three seasons, while his seven ranked victories in his first two seasons led all Notre Dame coaches.

His first two campaigns averaged 35.5 points per game (the best since Jesse Harper had 36.9 in his first two seasons in 1913-14) and opponents to 19.5 points per game (the best since Lou Holtz's first two seasons held opponents to 19.0).

The 2023 team finished 14th in the final Associated Press poll while setting program records for touchdowns (66) and total points (509) while also finishing ranked seventh in the country in both scoring offense and scoring defense.

The '23 Irish averaged 39.2 points per game, which is the second-highest in school history, averaged 5.3 yards-per-carry (the best since 1950) and scored 40 points in five consecutive games for the first time in program history. The '23 Irish also led the nation in pass efficiency defense, while ranking second in red zone defense and fifth in total defense.

In total, 27 college football coaches have been named to the watch list. The American Heart Association, the leading voluntary health organization devoted to a world of longer, healthier lives for all for more than 100 years, and the Bryant family present this award annually to celebrate Bear Bryant's legacy and raise awareness and critical funds for scientific research to eliminate needless suffering and death from cardiovascular disease and stroke, the leading causes of death globally. The football coaching legend died from a heart attack in 1983.

# PRIDE

Continued from page B1

Athletic Director Lindsay Gorham-Pflug. "A lot of the coaching staff and myself are alumni, everybody's family. We take great pride in 'once a Ranger, always a Ranger' and these are our kids, too. We couldn't ask for a better response to celebrate them and let them know that we do care about them."

"It really means a lot that everyone came out," said senior football player Anthony Higgins. "There's no game and there's still people out here taking their Friday nights to come out here and support us. Not many towns would come together like Cass does."

According to head football coach Jeremiah Lee, the Rangers began the season with 11 juniors and seniors and 26 freshman and sophomores. Following their Oct. 4 game against Decatur, seven of the Rangers' juniors and seniors – all of whom starters – were out with injuries and with 10 players out in total. With so many injuries to older players, the team did not have enough healthy players to continue supporting both a JV and Varsity team this season.

"It was a tough decision especially on a senior night like this. You don't want to make it but you have to put everything into perspective and it doesn't make sense for me to put them out there," Lee said. "We haven't had (a JV program) in five years. We fielded a JV team this year because our program was freshman-heavy and I felt like they needed reps, and then I was dependent on some of those guys on Friday nights to fill some of those voids. The voids were becoming too much on Fridays with not having my upperclassmen. I can't ask any more of these freshmen to do that anymore. That's part of why we're thin – because we're running two programs – but I think that's a necessity for me to be successful."

According to Gorham-Pflug and Lee, the response to the season's cancellation has been a mix of understanding and disappointment.

"There's been a lot of backlash," Gorham-Pflug said. "'You're teaching the kids to be quitters' and that is not the case at all."

"I think a lot of that is they don't understand the situation," Lee said. "There's misinformation out there. We didn't quit but it's for the well-being of my players. When you've got seven out that are upperclassmen and 14 year-olds playing 18 year-olds is just too big a gap for me personally. I put their safety above my pride."

Friday's senior night was bittersweet for Teresa Wellman. A teacher at Cassopolis, Wellman's son Jered is a senior on the team. While she is disappointed that Jered will not have a complete season as a senior, Wellman believes the district made the best decision for the safety of the student athletes.

"We've been talking for a couple weeks – a kid would get hurt and being a teacher too, they're also my kids at school too," she said. "I thought it was the best decision for the situation that we had because I knew our upperclassmen numbers weren't the best and they just kind of kept dwindling and these kids were giving their heart and soul out on that field. It's bittersweet – that's the only sport he plays so it's not like I'm gonna see him out on the field again but I also know that there's a big future ahead so that's exciting, too."

While Senior Night did not play out as originally hoped, those involved were happy to see the community turn out in support of the seniors.

"(When the season was canceled) I wanted to just fall over in my room and cry," said senior cheerleader Caitlin Jones. "Coming here today I just feel so much better that there was a good amount of people out tonight."

"When I walked out and I saw the amount of people that were in stands that I knew weren't just senior parents that were walking, I was like this is what community is about," Wellman said. "This is what Cassopolis is, we support each other no matter what."

# LOSS

Continued from page B1

Shaw afterwards.

"We figured they might run a trap or put the ball in the air there on that final play and their quarterback does a nice job with their offense. I thought Edwardsburg was one of the toughest teams we've seen up front this year. Both teams got tired in the second half and looked like they had just ran a marathon. Maybe it was a little bit warm tonight. I thought our kids played well, but we have to get better."

The loss was a bitter pill to swallow, especially considering that Edwardsburg won the rushing battle against Niles 300-174.

Lundgren added seven carries for 67 yards for Edwardsburg and completed 1-of-5 passes for 36 yards with two interceptions.

"Our mistakes we made on offense tonight absolutely killed us. I thought we got off to a slow start defensively but we played a great second half on that side of the ball. I love the way our kids competed in the final half, but we have to get healthy and clean things up these last couple weeks," Purlee said.

> "I love the way our kids competed in the final half, but we have to get healthy and clean things up these last couple weeks."
> — Coach Dan Purlee

Rucker piled up 91 yards rushing for Niles on 11 touches and one TD. Paul Hess added 13 carries for 64 and Peyton Gordon lugged the pigskin five times for 21.

Niles quarterback Talen Bennett completed 1-of-4 passes for 18 yards.

Rucker also stood out on the defensive side of the football where he led the Vikings with 12 tackles. Hess added nine tackles, Anderson and Gordon had eight apiece, RJ Fielder six, Cheney five and Olsen contributed four.

Edwardsburg was led defensively by Griffin with seven tackles, while Oscar Morris racked up five and Tyris Yoder had four.

Hess, the Vikings' senior halfback, capped off a 10-play 65-yard touchdown drive with a two-yard plunge into the endzone to put Niles up 7-0 after Ben Bruckner's PAT with 7:31 left in the first quarter.

Four plays into its first drive, Edwardsburg senior quarterback Lundgren scored on a 52-yard scamper and Carter Houseworth toed the PAT at 4:07, knotting the score up at 7-7.

Niles started its ensuing possession at Edwardsburg 48. Hess carried the ball 11 yards for a Vikings' first down before Rucker found a hole and scampered 37 yards to paydirt with 3:30 left in the period. Bruckner booted the PAT for a 14-7 Vikings' advantage.

Ward Cheney of Niles intercepted a Lundgren pass to set up what would be the Vikings' final TD of the night. Peyton Gordon galloped 28 yards on his team's first play from scrimmage and scored at 8:03. Bruckner's PAT was successful and put the Eddies up 21-7 at halftime.

The Niles defensive unit came up big in the second quarter by forcing Edwardsburg to turn the ball over on downs twice.

"Edwardsburg doesn't turn the ball over that much but they gave us a couple tonight. Those two fourth down stops by our defense were huge in that first half," Shaw noted.

Both teams return to action next Friday at 7 p.m. Niles entertains Plainwell and Edwardsburg visits Vicksburg.

# FALLS

Continued from page B1

"This was one of my first groups to actually bring up from freshman after taking over at varsity levels so to watch them grow as young men is always going to stay with me," he said. "To really see how they've matured over the last couple years, it's just been a pleasure to coach them and everything."

The Chieftains will graduate nine seniors from their 16-player roster.

"We got some work to do next year, sure," Pasternak said. "We were missing a few starters today that hopefully are coming back next year. We're gonna be super young next year, which hopefully, we can start to build for the future."

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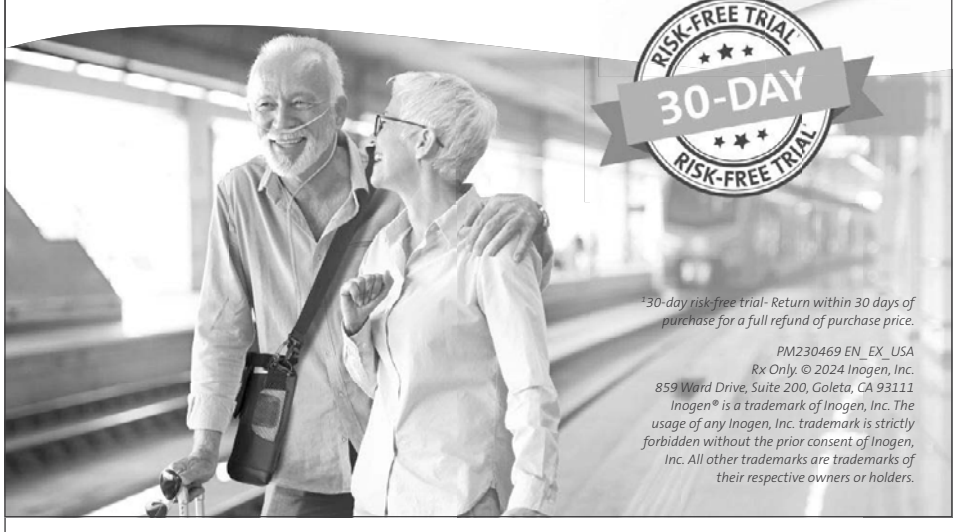


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## Public Notices

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**NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE**

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made by PAUL E. MADDEN, a single man, 22338 US Hwy 12, Edwardsburg, Michigan 49112, to OAK MORTGAGE, 125 E. Chicago Road, Sturgis, Michigan 49091 dated August 24, 2017 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Cass and State of Michigan, on August 28, 2017 in Liber 1127, Page 2278 there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Six and 23/100 ($124,486.23) Dollars due on the mortgage and no proceedings having been instituted to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof, where by the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative;
Now Therefore, Notice is Hereby Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and in pursuance of the statute in such case made and provided, the said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described or so much thereof as may be necessary, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the Cass County Courts and Law Building, 60296 M-62, Cassopolis, Michigan 49031 in the City of Cass, and County of Cass, Michigan, that being the place of holding Circuit Court in and for said County, on November 6, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, and said premises will be sold to pay the amount as aforesaid . then due on said Mortgage together with 5.67% percent interest, legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does pay on or prior to the date of said sale; which said premises are described as follows, to-wit:
The land referred to in this policy, situated in the Township of Ontwa, County of Cass, State of Michigan, is described as follows:
Lots 3 and 26 and the West 59 feet of Lots 2 and 27, Adamsport, according to the recorded plat in Liber A of Plats, Page 36, Cass County Records, ALSO, the Northerly 20 feet of Lot 28 and the Northerly 20 feet of the Easterly 16 feet of Lot 27, Adamsport, EXCEPT part of Lots 2 and 27 described as: from the Southeast corner of Lot 2, measure North 71 degrees 11 minutes West along the South line of said Lot, 16 feet; thence measure North 18 degrees 27 minutes East, parallel with the East line of said Lot, 122.15 feet to the point of beginning of the land herein described; thence North 10 degrees 11 minutes East, 139.85 feet; thence South 71 degrees 17 minutes East, 20 feet; thence South 18 degrees 27 minutes West, 138.35 feet to the point of beginning.
PIN: 14-090-050-002-00
Property Address: 22338 US Hwy 12, Edwardsburg, MI 49112
Pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the last day to redeem the Sheriff's Deed will be May 6, 2025, however, if an Affidavit of Abandonment is filed with the Register of Deeds, the last day to redeem will be December 6, 2024, or until the time to provide the notice was required by MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later.
If said property is in fact sold at the above-described foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the above listed Mortgagor will be responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to Oak Mortgage LLC for damaging the property during the redemption period.
ATTENTION PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.
Dated: October 12, 2024
OAK MORTGAGE, LLC
Mortgagee
HaasCaywood PC
By: P. Joseph Haas, Jr.
Attorney for OAK MORTGAGE, LLC
Business Address:
112 South Monroe Street
Sturgis, MI 49091

Niles Daily Star: Oct. 12, 19, 26 and Nov. 2, 2024
**FC/MADDEN**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The October 10, 2024, Bertrand Charter Township Board Regular Meeting draft minutes have been posted at the Bertrand Charter Township Hall, 3835 Buffalo Road, Buchanan, MI 49107 and on the township website (bertrandtwpmi.gov). Polly White, Clerk Bertrand Charter Township

Niles Daily Star:
Oct. 19, 2024
**MEETING**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Economy Storage, 2206 Yankee Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday October 26, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

| Unit # | Name |
|---|---|
| 10 | Charmin Kelly |
| 16 | Tyson Fuller |
| 58 | Jonathan Stowe |
| 63/180 | Amber Schumacher-West |
| 75 | David Elam |
| 99 | Jimmie Tayler |
| 108 | Terry Riege |
| 114 | Tellie Doan |
| 116 | Melissa Kaeding |
| 145/468 | Michael Merritt |
| 148 | Gloster Johnson |
| 151 | Remy Lane |
| 177 | Larry Wegrecki |
| 184/66 | Mary Anderson |
| 191 | Alan Smith |
| 192 | Patricia Yoder |
| 195 | Daniel Beushauser |
| 205 | Nancy Bombrys |
| 214 | Amber Phillips |
| 217 | James Russell |
| 278 | Chelsie Carlyle |
| 284 | Kathleen Peterson |
| 289 | Janay Goins |
| 315 | Thomas Raybuck |
| 321 | James Browning |
| 342 | Terrence Moss |
| 346 | DaMonica Williams |
| 352 | Andre Ahlers |
| 389 | Parnell Jenkins |
| 395 | Carl Backus |
| 410/534 | Rebecca Coleman |
| 486 | Leigh Anne Norris |
| 514 | Christopher Kohut |
| 529 | Robert Wojcik |
| 541 | Nicole Hurt |
| 545 | Candy Whitmire |
| 580 | Ann Schafer |
| 596/552/566/606/649 | Anthony Marzolo |
| 605 | Michael Lewark |
| 613 | Nichola Jones |
| 628/499 | Altavious Stone |
| 638 | Britney Stanczyk |
| 661 | Rodney Prescott |

Niles U-Stor-It, 1314 E. Main Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday October 26, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

| | |
|---|---|
| 23 | Henry Krueger |
| 30 | Curtis Sheldon |
| 57 | Nathan Haynes |

J & J Storage, 2220 S. 13th Street and 2627 S. 11th Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday October 26. 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

| | |
|---|---|
| 33 | Tammera Carbon |
| 60 | Samantha Williams |
| 79 | William Morris |
| 97 | Blake King |
| 230A | Rosiley Marinho |
| 168 | Jerol Williams Jr. |
| 173 | Alex Robertson |
| 189 | Dawn Ngiramulei |
| 238/466 | James Diss |
| 250 | Robert Clayton/Jessica Vissik |
| 253 | Jesse Williams |
| 263 | Tamara Holmes |
| 292 | The Woodshed Crafts |
| 345 | Carol Morrow |
| 370 | Linda Sharrer |
| 373 | Rhonda Sue Outlaw |
| 443 | Autum Collins |

Niles Daily Star:
Oct. 12 and 19, 2024
**STORAGE AUCTION**

## Legal Notices

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**
**IN THE CASS COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT**
**60296 M-62, CASSOPOLIS, MI 49031**
**(269) 445-4412**
**ORDER FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE**
**File No.: 2024-000515-CH**

DEBBORAH SUE PAOLASSO and DENISE RENE PETERS Co-Trustees of the Bruce Brown and Kathleen Brown Revocable Living Trust, Plaintiffs VS UNKNOWN PARTIES, THEIR HEIRS AND SUCCESSORS WITH CLAIMS TO REAL ESTATE TAX ID: 14-040-001-010-01 Defendants

JOHN R. COLIP (P25250) BUTZEL LONG Attorneys for Plaintiffs 12 Longmeadow Village Drive, Suite 100 Niles, MI 49120 269-591-6915

**ORDER FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE**
**AT A SESSION** of said Court at the Courthouse in the City of Cassopolis, Cass County, Michigan, on 09/19/2024
**PRESENT:** Honorable Carol M. Bealor, P57068
On Motion of Plaintiff, Debborah Sue Paolasso and Denise Rene Peters, Co-Trustees of the Bruce Brown and Kathleen Brown Revocable Living Trust, by and through its attorney, JOHN R. COLIP Esq., of the law firm of BUTZEL LONG, herein; the Court having read the verified Motion for Substituted Service, and being fully advised in the premises:
**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED,** That Plaintiff's Motion for Substituted Service be, and it is hereby granted, and that service shall be made upon Defendants, in this matter by: (i) posting a copy of this Order with Attachment "A" in the Courthouse and in two other public places in LaGrange Township for three continuous weeks; and (ii) publishing this Order with Attachment "A" in the Leader, a newspaper published in Cass County, Michigan, for three consecutive weeks.
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** That PDQ Services is to post this Oder with Attachment "A" and provide proof of posting in compliance with this Order and file Proof of Posting with this Court.
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that mailing a copy of this Order to Unknown Parties, their Heirs and Successors, is not necessary since there is no ascertainable way to determine the address nor the specific identity of those Defendants.
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Attachment "A" is made a part of this Order and will accompany any posting or publication.
Date: 09/19/2024
Carl M Beador
09/19/2024
Prepared by: John R. Colip, Esq. (P25250 12 Longmeadow Village Drive Suite 100 Niles, MI 49120 269-591-6915

**ATTACHMENT "A" TO ORDER FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION**
An action to Quiet Title has been filed in the Cass County Circuit Court, in the State of Michigan. This action is filed by Plaintiffs, Debborah Sue Paolasso and Denise Rene Peters, Co- Trustees of the Bruce Brown and Kathleen Brown Revocable Living Trust, against Defendants: Unknown Parties, their Heirs and Successors with Claims to Real Estate Tax ID: 14-040-001- 010-01, and any other persons or entities claiming any right or title to property located in LaGrange Township, Cass County, Michigan and legally described as:
Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 1, Town 6 South, Range 15 West, which point is 3.75 chains South of the intersection of the West line of Section 1 and the East line of Section 2 with the centerline of O'Keefe Street. Thence Easterly along the South line of said Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 1 to the Dowagiac Creek. Thence Southwesterly to the meander line of the Dowagiac Creek. Thence Southwesterly along said meander line to a point which is South 25° West 2.86 chains to the point of beginning.
You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in the Cass County Circuit Court at 60296 M-62, Cassopolis, MI 49031, on or before 28 days from the date of the last publication. If you fail to do so, a Default Judgment will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this case. You may contact the law offices of BUTZEL LONG, 12 Longmeadow Village Drive, Suite 100, Niles, MI 49120, 269-591-6915, for any information on this matter.
Prepared By: John R. Colip, Esq. (P25250) 12 Longmeadow Village Drive, Suite 100 Niles, MI 49120 269-591-6915

Niles Daily Star:
Oct. 12, 19 and 26, 2024
**2024-000515 -CH**

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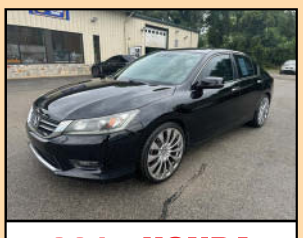

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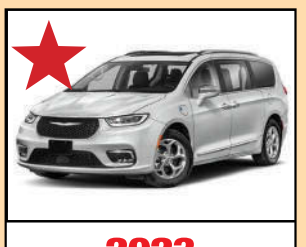

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